



Charlotte City Council
Economic Development Committee
Summary
December 20, 2018

COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

ED Focus Area Plan (No Action Required)
Charlotte Business INclusion (Action - Passed Unanimously)
Project PIECE (No Action Required)
2019 Meeting Schedule (Action - Passed Unanimously)

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Committee Members Present: Ed Driggs (Vice Chair), Matt Newton, Justin Harlow and LaWana Mayfield

Committee Members Absent: James Mitchell

Additional Council Present: Tariq Bokhari

Staff Resource: Tracy Dodson, City Manager's Office
Jason Kay, City Manager's Office
Phil Reiger, Strategy & Budget
Kevin Dick & Emily Cantrell, Economic Development
Nancy Rosado, Finance

Meeting Duration: 12:30p.m. – 2:00p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda – December 20, 2018
2. Presentations – FY 2018-2019 Focus Area Status Report; Project PIECE & PIECE 2.0; CBI Policy Recommendations
3. Handouts – ED Focus Area Measures and Targets; ED FY2018 & FY2019 Strategic Focus Area Plan; 2019 Draft Meeting Schedule

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Vice Chairman Driggs called the meeting to order and asked the audience to introduce themselves. He introduced the agenda items and turned the meeting over to Assistant City Manager Tracy Dodson to start the meeting. Ms. Dodson shared with the committee the latest ED announcement on Cognizant to expand its operations in Charlotte, creating 300 new jobs. For the month of December, the City of Charlotte has announced 2,715 new jobs. Ms. Dodson recognized Christi Floyd who

received an award on behalf of the City for Charlotte Business Resources (CBR). CBR was recognized on December 18 by the Charlotte LGBT Chamber as the Non-Profit of the Year. Ms. Dodson also recognized the work done by Charlotte Water at their recent event, “Work with Water” at the Airport to facilitate partnerships in meeting the goals of Charlotte Business INClusion.

ED Focus Area Plan

Phil Reiger provided an overview of the City Council-adopted Economic Development Focus Area Plan, which included the strategic measures and targets. Staff will incorporate the committee’s feedback and summarize the next steps for establishing new strategic priorities.

Staff will incorporate the committee’s feedback for discussion at the Council’s Annual Retreat in January.

Project PIECE

Kevin Dick provided an update on Project PIECE services, accomplishments, public-private partnerships and remaining funds since the inception of the program. He also discussed components of PIECE 2.0 and the City’s role as an investor, connector to business recruitment projects and infrastructure reimbursement agreement commitments, as well as creating potential job opportunities.

Recommended next steps include:

- 1) Continue investment in construction and skilled trades with \$370,370 in remaining available funds.
- 2) New investment for training in trade and logistics.
- 3) Unify job training efforts of various city departments and connect individuals in the community to opportunities.
- 4) Pursue, execute, and implement MOU’s with companies and developers to connect individuals with opportunities.

The committee discussed considering additional staff resources for Project PIECE 2.0 prior to budget discussions, implementing strategies to get more female participants, targeting more zip codes in Census tract geography locations for participants and contemplate ongoing city investment to expand PIECE 2.0 to the next level.

Mr. Dick also recognized the Project PIECE private sector partners and those that serve on the Corporate Advisory Committee. Charlotte Water, Aviation, and Transportation have also participated and hired Project PIECE graduates.

Charlotte Business INClusion

Nancy Rosado provided the committee with an update on feedback received from the CBI Advisory Committee related to the committee’s Good Faith Efforts referral. Changes to the CBI policy for the committee’s consideration include:

- 1) Lowering the construction subcontracting threshold to \$200,000.
- 2) Allowing certified firms to count their dollars towards one subcontracting goal.
- 3) Implementing CBI policy language revisions to allow the CBI Office to establish thresholds and methodology for a Small Business Sheltered Market program.

The committee asked staff to provide a more comprehensive report from the CBI Advisory Committee to help guide Council's decision.

MOTION AND VOTE: A motion was made by Council member Mayfield and seconded by Council member Harlow to approve the CBI policy recommendations, with an amendment to hold a public hearing prior to the full Council vote. (Vote passed 4:0 - Driggs, Newton, Mayfield and Harlow).

2019 Meeting Schedule

MOTION AND VOTE: A motion was made by Council member Mayfield and seconded by Council member Harlow to approve the 2019 Meeting Schedule. (Vote passed 4:0 - Driggs, Newton, Mayfield and Harlow). Chairman Mitchell was absent for the vote; however, staff will be working to confirm the dates are good with him as well.

Next Meeting:

The next committee meeting will occur on January 24 at Noon where discussions will continue on the Economic Development Strategic Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00p.m.